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**MATRIC NUMBER: 18/SMS/09**

**DEPARTMENT: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY**

**TOPIC:IDENTIFY THE ROLES OF SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN RESPONDING TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC GLOBALLY**

***Abstract***

*Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).The disease was first identified in December 2019 in Wuhan, the capital of China's Hubeiprovince, and has since spread globally, resulting in the ongoing 2019–20 coronavirus pandemic.Common symptoms include fever, cough and shortness of breath.Other symptoms may include fatigue, muscle pain, diarrhea, sore throat, loss of smell and abdominal pain.] The time from exposure to onset of symptoms is typically around five days, but may range from two to fourteen days.While the majority of cases result in mild symptoms, some progress to viral pneumonia and multi-organ failure.As of 11 April 2020, more than 1.69 million cases have been reported in more than 200 countries and territories, resulting in more than 102,000 deaths. More than 376,000 people have recovered.*

*But COVID-19 is much more than a health crisis. By stressing every one of the countries it touches, it has the potential to create devastating social, economic and political crises that will leave deep scars.*

First of all, it is very important to mention that the underlying concept of international institutions is global governance. Although no explicit, standardized definition of global governance exists according to Finkelstein, global governance can be defined as governing international relations without a sovereign authority. This broad definition allows for an adequate degree of flexibility regarding the scope, reach, formality, institutionalization and the different actors of global governance which is indispensable in order to comprehend global governance in all its different forms. Therefore, global governance should cover overlapping international functions such as information creation and exchange; a regulatory and normative function with the formulation and promulgation of principles; the promotion of cooperation, consensus and common conflict resolution; the allocation of resources; the provision of technical assistance, humanitarian aid and development as well as the maintenance of peace and order.

The world as we know it, is currently plagued by a virus known as “Covid-19”The pandemic is moving like a wave—one that may yet crash on those least able to cope. Many of our communities are now unrecognizable. Dozens of the world’s greatest cities are deserted as people stay indoors, either by choice or by government order. Across the world, shops, theatres, restaurants and bars are closing. Every day, people are losing jobs and income, with no way of knowing when normality will return. Small island nations,heavily dependent on tourism, have empty hotels and deserted beaches.

the pandemic also poses a significant threat to the maintenance of international peace and security potentially leading to an increase in social unrest and violence that would greatly undermine the ability to fight the disease.several international organizations have come forward to basically fill in the gaps and build on the parts the government have left untouched regarding either economic, political and social aspects of a state and also lend a helping hand to ensure the safety of the people and the world at large.

The North Atlanta Treaty Organization, is an example of an international organization that has been extremely active since this pandemic emerged NATO, together with other international organizations, is closely monitoring the COVID-19 outbreak and all NATO Allies continue to take preventative measures. The organization welcomes the leading efforts of the World Health Organization to raise awareness and provide guidance to countries and individuals. NATO military medical staff remain vigilant. They are monitoring any potential impact for NATO troops deployed on operations.

NATO had already taken preventative measures at our headquarters, based on guidance from the World Health Organization, to reduce the risk of the further spread of infection. These include the temporary suspension of certain journeys encouraging staff to work from home, and the temporary suspension of group visits to NATO HQ in Brussels.

Law enforcement services play a crucial role in contributing to the effort to control the disease, promoting safer communities, and fighting criminals who take advantage of the outbreak. At INTERPOL, they play an important role during this scary tiny by working 24/7 to support police officers in our member countries as they face these unprecedented challenges. Criminals are exploiting the current situation to find new ways to make money. They are increasing and diversifying their activities through a wide range of crimes and scams which exploit the fear and uncertainty surrounding the virus.

In particular, There is also an increase in counterfeit medical products, fraud and cybercrime. While INTERPOL will support police around the world in countering these crimes, we also encourage the general public to be vigilant and follow our advice on how to stay safe. Interpol has also taken it upon themselves to publish international guidelines in order to enhance the safety and effectiveness of law enforcement and first responder support in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. With police routinely running into dangerous situations to protect their communities, the guidelines provide information on how officers can protect themselves and their families. They also outline the various roles carried out by law enforcement during a pandemic, such as border control, maintaining public order, and assisting national health authorities in identifying cases and their origin.Shaped in accordance with international best practices, the guidelines are intended to be considered by law enforcement agencies as part of a response strategy to the outbreak in line with national public health authorities. Interpol has put out a public statement saying they will continue to provide whatever support is necessary to police in our member countries, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The global humanitarian response plan is a joint effort by members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), including UN, other international organizations and NGOs with a humanitarian mandate, to analyse and respond to the direct public health and indirect immediate humanitarian consequences of the pandemic, particularly on people in countries already facing other crises.It aggregates relevant COVID-19 appeals and inputs from WFP, WHO, IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF and NGOs, and it complements other plans developed by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. NGOs and NGO consortiums have been instrumental in helping shape the plan and conveying local actors’ perspectives, and they will play a direct role in service delivery. NGOs will be able to access funding mobilized in the framework of this plan and related country plans through partner arrangements with UN agencies, through pooled funding mechanisms, including Country-Based Pooled Funds, and through direct donor funding. This ensures complementarity, synergy, gaps and needs identification, and a coordinated response. The Global HRP also complements and supports existing government responses and national coordination mechanisms, with due consideration paid to the respect for humanitarian principles.

Another role of the Global HRP identifies the most affected and vulnerable population groups in priority countries, including countries with an ongoing Humanitarian Response Plan, Refugee Response Plan or multi-country/subregional response plan, as well as countries that have requested international assistance, such as Iran. Updates to existing country plans has been initiated to ensure that humanitarian organizations are prepared and able to meet the additional humanitarian needs occasioned by the pandemic.

Furthermore, More than 1.5 billion students and youth across the planet are affected by school and university closures due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The Global Education Coalition launched by UNESCO seeks to facilitate inclusive learning opportunities for children and youth during this period of sudden and unprecedented educational disruption.Investment in remote learning should both mitigate the immediate disruption caused by COVID-19 and establish approaches to develop more open and flexible education systems for the future.

Most governments around the world have temporarily closed educational institutions in an attempt to contain the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic.

These nationwide closures are impacting over 91% of the world’s student population by ensuring a more safe environment where young ones and their tutors stay indoors in order to avoid the spread of the virus. Several other countries have implemented localized closures impacting millions of additional learners.UNESCO is supporting countries in their efforts to mitigate the immediate impact of school closures, particularly for more vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, and to facilitate the continuity of education for all through remote learning.

**Conclusion**

Mankind is a community with a shared future. Therefore, the lives and health of people of all countries can only be fully protected when mankind defeats the virus as a whole.International coordination must be in place for the world to respond timely to any sudden outbreak of public health incidence. And in this process, international organizations' role cannot be overemphasized hence one can say that these international organizations have not only played crucial and important roles in the maintenance of safety but also in impacting peace and stability.